

Powell; ten grandchildren; two sisters, Pansy Pannell and Sandee R Janney; and Dot Kidd, who was like a second mother to him. I would like to offer my condolences to them on the loss of this great man.

FIREFIGHTER AWARDS

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize fire, rescue and EMS personnel who have provided distinguished service to the people of Florida's 16th Congressional District.

First responders, fire departments and emergency medical service teams are summoned on short notice to serve their respective communities. Oftentimes, they arrive at scenes of great adversity and trauma, to which they reliably bring strength and composure. These brave men and women spend hundreds of hours in training so that they are prepared when they get "the call."

Nine years ago, I established the 16th District Congressional Fire and Rescue and EMS Awards to honor officers, departments, and units for outstanding achievement.

On behalf of the people of Florida's 16th District, it is my privilege to congratulate the following winners, who were selected this year by an independent committee comprised of a cross section of current and retired fire and rescue personnel living in the district.

Parrish Fire District Division Chief Michael Williamson was chosen for the Career Service Award.

Hillsborough County Fire and Rescue Battalion Chief Morris Lopez; Captains Derek Butler, Michael Bugg, Erik Sawyer, and Brian Visnovec; Acting Captains Charles Bridges and Adam Brown; Firefighters Travis Poirier and Edward Kofler; Fire Medics Colin Tracey, Gilad Maimoni, Brandon Gadberry, Adam Schwer, Violet Anderson, Juanita Benjamin, Brian Johnson, and Ryan VanBuskirk; Lieutenants Joseph Blackwelder and Joshua Veeck; Driver Engineers Ralph Mascaro, Derek Wendt, Ayrton Burden, Jerome Mancillas, Jeffrey Hartzner, Patrick Geiger; and Acting Driver Engineers Marc Dieth, Joshua Thompson, and Ryan Fritz; and Manatee Search and Rescue Deputy Chief John Elwood and K9 Karma, and Captain Michael Dvorak and K9 Max were chosen to receive the Unit Citation.

Hillsborough County Fire and Rescue Captain John Shirah and Driver Engineer Peter Dziubinski; Sarasota County Fire Department Lieutenant Randy Allen and Fire Medics Miriam Troyer, Andrew Moler, and Michael Alberti were chosen to receive the Preservation of Life Award.

Hillsborough County Fire and Rescue Lieutenant Kimberlee Rogers, Deputy Chief Jason Dougherty; Manatee Search Nicholas Reis; and Manatee County EMS Social Worker Sonia Shuhart were chosen for the Dedication and Professionalism Award.

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Lieutenant Terri Adams; Corporals William Barnes and Carlos Brito; and Deputies Keaton Bruce and Andrew Fleming; and Civilians Trexley and Bradley Cleophat were chosen for the Associate Service Award.

CELEBRATING KRISTY DUBINSKY'S ACHIEVEMENT

HON. GUY RESCIENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. RESCIENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Kristy Dubinsky, who selflessly painted portraits for the families of the 13 U.S. service members killed in evacuation efforts at the Hamid Karzai International Airport on August 26, 2021.

After learning of the suicide bombing in Kabul, Afghanistan on August 26, 2021, Kristy Dubinsky immediately knew she needed to honor the 13 U.S. service members killed in that senseless act. An accomplished artist herself, Ms. Dubinsky was already working on another piece for an art show in Michigan. However, she dropped what she was working on to paint a portrait of each service member who gave their life that day.

Ms. Dubinsky, an art teacher at Elizabeth Forward High School specializing in military themes, said that "a voice in my head just kept telling me to paint the 13." Kristy documented the entire process. She posted daily on her social media platforms for others to follow along. While recording the progress over the 13 days, a disabled former Marine, Shelly Frontera, saw what Kristy posted and traveled from Michigan to honor the 13 soldiers by accompanying each painting with a red, white bud vase, and blue rose.

Ms. Dubinsky's portraits depict 12 of the 13 in formal dress: Marine Corps Lance Cpl. David Espinoza, Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Darin Hoover, Army Staff Sgt. Ryan Knauss, Marine Corps Cpl. Hunter Lopez, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Rylee McCollum, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Dylan Merola, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Kareem Nikouli, Marine Corps Sgt. Johnny Pichardo, Marine Corps Cpl. Humberto Sanchez, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Jared Schmitz, Navy Hospital Corpsman Maxton Soviak, and Marine Corps Cpl. Daegan Page. Marine Corps Sgt. Nicole Gee is the only exception. Ms. Dubinsky chose to depict the iconic photo of her holding an Afghan baby as evacuation efforts continued.

Kristy's portraits are now part of the world's largest annual juried international art show, with 900 artists and thousands of visitors attending.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the achievements of Kristy Dubinsky. Her work is exceptional and solidifies her reputation as a champion of the American service members in our region.

WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS— ATLANTA BRAVES

HON. LUCY MCBATH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mrs. MCBATH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of an event 26 years in the making. This week, Georgia, and the entire nation, watched as our Atlanta Braves shut out the Houston Astros in Game 6, clinching the World Series for Atlanta for the first time in decades.

I am so proud of this team. They fought through adversity, carrying a losing record until August 6th. They overcame injuries and fought hard for their teammates whose season ended early. Every part of the Atlanta Braves organization deserves credit for this win: from the players, to the management, and the front office staff that still believed in this team when so many others might have given up. I am thrilled for every player and every fan who has dreamed of this moment for over two decades.

The odds were against us, but to paraphrase the words of Joc Pederson, "We just might be those World Series Champs."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHIP ROY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 339.

BIOMASS & BIOGAS FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the "Biomass and Biogas for Electric Vehicles Act."

In passing the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-140), Congress made electricity from renewable biomass—including biogas and waste-to-energy from feedstocks such as separated yard or food waste—eligible under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). Despite years of Congressional urging, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has yet to approve a single biomass facility under the program. Some applications for biomass electricity—known as "pathway petitions" under the RFS program—have been pending now for more than 7 years.

I have long supported a utility-scale subsidy for biomass electricity to create a market for byproducts of proper forest management and hazardous fuels reduction in fire-prone states like California. This legislation fulfills that objective by working within the framework of the existing Renewable Fuel Standard, which already includes electricity generated from eligible feedstocks used as a transportation fuel.

Under current law and USEPA regulations, "renewable biomass" is already defined to include biogas, namely methane captured from livestock and agricultural byproducts, food waste, or residential yard waste. As such, my "Biomass and Biogas for Electric Vehicles Act" would complement the significant investments California is making under the State's successful Dairy Digester Research and Development Program.

Currently, the USEPA requires facilities to prove with near-perfect traceability that the electricity generated is used as a transportation fuel to participate in the RFS program. Most renewable biomass facilities are selling electricity into the grid and, therefore, cannot

prove definitively that each electron generated is used exclusively by electric vehicles.

The “Biomass and Biogas for Electric Vehicles Act” would enable biomass facilities generating renewable electricity to finally participate in the RFS program. Instead of requiring that biomass facilities meet the impossible task of proving that the electricity generated and sold into the grid is used directly as a transportation fuel, my legislation directs the USEPA to extrapolate the percentage of total U.S. electricity generation used for charging electric vehicles. The USEPA would then set a quarterly quota for each biomass facility registered under the RFS program, limited by each facility’s maximum design capacity and the amount of electricity generated.

I recognize that some biomass and biogas facilities, specifically those with on-site electric vehicle charging stations, can meet the USEPA’s current traceability requirement. That is why my legislation would grandfather any facilities with a written contract or affidavit accepted by USEPA demonstrating that the electricity generated is used as transportation fuel.

My legislation would also authorize USEPA to collect a reasonable fee from industry to cover the costs of reviewing any applications (pathway petitions or facility registration requests) for renewable electricity submitted under the RFS program. In a 2016 “advance notice of proposed rulemaking,” the USEPA cited inadequate agency resources as a major impediment to approval of renewable electricity under the RFS program. The USEPA could waive these application fees for municipally owned biomass or biogas facilities under my bill. This fee-for-service model is based on the USEPA’s regulatory regime under the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act of 2003 (title V of Public Law 108–199), which is widely regarded as successful and enjoys broad-based support in Congress.

Lastly, my legislation would make biomass removed from federal forestlands eligible under the RFS. Current law only allows biomass collected from non-federal lands, including privately owned land, state or locally owned public lands, and tribal land held in trust by the federal government, to qualify as renewable biomass under the RFS. This restriction is arbitrary and hampers market-driven incentives to reduce the overload of hazardous fuels for wildfires on our National Forests and other federal forestlands. However, I want to be clear that my legislation would not open federal forestland to timber harvests or commercial hazardous fuels removal where such activities are prohibited currently.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members to co-sponsor the “Biomass and Biogas for Electric Vehicles Act.” As California and other western states face increasingly severe and year-round fire seasons due to global climate change, we simply must create a market for forest byproducts to incentivize much-needed hazardous fuels reduction. Renewable electricity from biomass and biogas also helps to reduce our nation’s greenhouse gas emissions and to transition to a clean energy economy. While these measures alone will not solve the climate crisis or prevent all catastrophic wildfires, they are undoubtedly part of the solution.

CONGRATULATING REV. DR. BENJAMIN THOMAS, SR. ON HIS 30TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Reverend Dr. Benjamin N. Thomas Sr., who recently celebrated his 30th Pastoral Anniversary at the Historic Tanner Chapel AME Church, the oldest African American church in Arizona.

Reverend Thomas first came to Tanner Chapel in October 1991 and since then has been dedicated to serving not only his church, but the whole Phoenix community. He has served on the boards of several organizations, including as Commissioner of the Arizona Commission on African-American Affairs, member of the Arizona Department of Economic Security Board of Directors, and President of the Arizona Ecumenical Council of Churches. In 2001, he founded Tanner Community Development Corporation to help families meet their spiritual, economic, educational, health, and housing needs. Prior to coming to Phoenix, he served as the pastor of AME churches in Los Angeles, California; Seattle, Washington; and Joplin, Missouri. A dedicated family man, Reverend Thomas is husband to Beverly Thomas, father to Rev. Benjamin Thomas Jr., and a proud grandfather.

Reverend Thomas has been a role model to so many throughout the years. Although he has had opportunities to pastor elsewhere or to move up within church leadership, he has remained dedicated to Tanner Chapel and the Phoenix Community. I would like to congratulate Reverend Thomas on 30 years of pastoring at Tanner Chapel, thank him for his decades of service to the Phoenix community, and wish him the best as he continues his journey with members of the Historic Tanner Chapel AME Church.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF WILLIAM “BILL” MOUSER

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the life of William “Bill” Mouser, who passed away recently after a lifetime of service to his fellow Michiganders. Through his constant dedication, tenacity, and leadership, Bill became an essential part of the Northern Michigan community.

William Mouser was born in Hastings, Michigan, on September 10, 1950, and graduated from Lake Wood High School in Lake Odessa in 1968. He furthered his education at Lansing Community College where he met his future wife, Shirley Jean Peters, who he married in 1972. With a drive to serve his local community, Bill spent much of his retirement as a part-time facilities manager in Garfield Township and served on numerous local boards including the Grand Traverse County Road Commission, the Green Lake Township Planning and Zoning Committee, and the Grand Traverse County Parks and Recreation Com-

mission. Bill’s passing is a significant loss to our community, and he is missed dearly by his family and friends. Mr. Mouser’s tireless devotion to the public good touched the lives of many Michiganders, and the impact of his work cannot be overstated.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of Michigan’s First Congressional District, I ask you to join me in honoring the life of William “Bill” Mouser. He will be forever remembered for the many lives he bettered throughout his life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 357; Yea on Roll Call No. 359; YEA on Roll Call No. 360; YEA on Roll Call No. 361; YEA on Roll Call No. 362; YEA on Roll Call No. 363; YEA on Roll Call No. 364; YEA on Roll Call No. 365; and YEA on Roll Call No. 366.

ATLANTA BRAVES WORLD SERIES WIN

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the Atlanta Braves for winning the 2021 World Series.

It’s been 26 years since “America’s Team” clinched a World Series. I remember the stars of that 1995 World Series team—Tom Glavine, John Smoltz, Chipper Jones, and Greg Maddux, just to name a few. Just like that World Series lives in the minds of many, the 2021 World Series against the Houston Astros will hold a special place in the minds of baseball fans across our state—and all throughout Braves country—for years to come. Despite Atlanta having the All-Star Game taken away in July and not having the chance to honor the late, great Hank Aaron on a national stage, the Braves found a way to bring the Fall Classic back to Georgia and pay tribute to Hank—and fittingly clinched the series in the 44th week of the year.

This team fought the entire season—despite having as low as a 0.3 percent chance to win the World Series back in mid-July and not having a winning record until August 6th. They overcame a tremendous number of obstacles to bring the trophy back to the Peach State. They have made Georgia very proud, and I look forward to them defending their title next year.

Chop On and Go Braves.

RECOGNIZING WWII VETERAN, DEAN MCKINLEY

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize WWII Veteran, Dean McKinley.